

REMARKS

Claims 10-22 are now pending in the application. By this paper, Claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein and Claims 10-22 have been added. The basis for these new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings originally filed. No new matter has been added. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action and are believed to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Martin et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,415,509).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot as Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al in view of Goss et al (U.S. Patent 5,639,113).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that rejection is moot as Claims 5 and 8 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

New Claims 10-22 are added for consideration. Independent Claim 10 recites a bolt lock for preventing rotation of a bolt relative to a workpiece including a locking plate having a ring-shaped body, a first extension extending from the ring-shaped body, and a second extension extending from the ring-shaped body. The ring-shaped body includes a first plurality of bendable locking tabs, the first extension includes a second plurality of bendable locking tabs, and the second extension includes a third plurality of locking tabs.

The Examiner, rejecting now-canceled Claims 1-9 relied primarily on Martin et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,415,509) as disclosing a locking plate (80) having a ring-shaped body (86) and bendable locking tabs (90, 92, 94). See Martin at Col. 3, lines 35-57 and Fig. 6. While Martin discloses a retaining ring having a series of bendable tabs, Martin fails to teach a ring-shaped body having extensions and therefore fails to teach that each extension includes a plurality of bendable locking tabs.

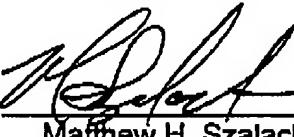
Because Martin fails to disclose a ring-shaped body having extensions, and further, because Martin fails to disclose that each extension includes a plurality of bendable locking tabs, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 10, as well as Claims 11-21, dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 944-6526.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
Matthew H. Szalach, Reg. No. 53,665
(248) 944-6526
Attorney for Applicants

Ralph E. Smith
CIMS 483-02-19
DaimlerChrysler Intellectual Capital Company LLC
DaimlerChrysler Technology Center
800 Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757
248-944-6519

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